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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the **PATENT APPLICATION** of:

Magerl et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Known

Filed:

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For: IMPLANT USED IN PROCEDURES FOR STIFFENING THE VERTEBRAL

COLUMN

Group:

Not Yet Known

Examiner:

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Our File:

LUD-PT015

(PA1144+45US)

Date:

May 9, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows: